Printed for the use of the Foreign Office. *March* 1884.

CONFIDENTIAL.

(4942.)

139

Correspondence relative to Quarantine in the Dardanelles.

No. 1.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received November* 28.)

(No. 347. Commercial.)

Constantinople, November 24, 1883.

My Lord,

I HAVE already informed your Lordship, in reply to your telegram of the 17th instant, instructing me to obtain permission for the "Teeling Head" to pass up the Dardanelles without communicating with the shore, that I lost no time in requesting Dr. Dickson to bring the case before the International Sanitary Board at the earliest opportunity. This Dr. Dickson did, and I now inclose copies of his Report and of the *procès-verbal* of the meeting. From these documents your Lordship will perceive that all Dr Dickson's colleagues united in refusing to relax the existing Règlement, which requires every ship that has touched at an Egyptian port to perform a quarantine of twenty days in the neighbourhood of Smyrna. Until last summer only ten days quarantine was necessary, and ships had the faculty of being passed through the Dardanelles and Bosphorus under the observation of two Health Officers, but at the instance, I believe, of M. de Nélidoff, the Russian Ambassador, the severer restrictions now in force were introduced when the cholera broke out in Egypt. I have written a strong letter to M. de Nélidoff on the subject, suggesting that a return should now be made to the old Règlement. I have also spoken to the German Ambassador in the same sense, but I have not yet received M. de Nélidoff's reply.

I may farther observe, in reference to the foregoing subject, that the Sultan is said to be extremely nervous about the cholera, and a strong advocate of quarantine in its most rigorous form.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Dr. Dickson to the Earl of Dufferin.

Constantinople, November 22, 1883.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that on the 20th instant the note your Excellency addressed to the Porte, asking that the steamer "Teeling Head," bound from Cardiff to Odessa, and which had called at Port Saïd, should be allowed to proceed through the Straits without performing quarantine at the Dardanelles, was communicated to the Board of Health. I supported this demand to the utmost in my power, and in conformity with the tenour of Lord Granville's telegram to your Excellency of the 17th instant; the Board, however, rejected the demand, and, at the suggestion of the French Delegate, resolved that should the "Teeling Head" arrive at the Dardanelles without having performed its quarantine at Clazomène, it would be repulsed and driven back to that place to undergo the quarantine there. I beg to inclose herewith an extract of the Minutes of the Board's sitting on this question.

I then brought forward a proposal, when this incident was over, inviting the Board to return to its old standing Regulations applicable to arrivals from cholera-

infected places, and to the passage of the Straits of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles, but my proposal also was rejected by the Board. Had it been accepted the quarantine on arrivals from Egypt would have been reduced from twenty to ten days; and ships coming from Egypt, bound to the Russian ports of the Black Sea, would have had the right to go through the Straits of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus without communicating with the shore, and under a surveillance of two health guards, put on board at the Dardanelles, and which would have been landed at the lazaret of Cavak.

I beg to forward herewith a copy of my proposal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. D. DICKSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Extract from the Procès-verbal of the Sitting of the Superior Council of Health, dated November 20, 1883.

COMMUNICATION est donnée d'une note adressée par l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique au Ministère des Affaires Étrangères demandant que le vapeur Anglais "Teeling Head," parti de Cardiff pour Odessa, après avoir touché le 10 courant à Port-Saïd, ne fasse pas une quarantaine aux Dardanelles, où il est retenu depuis deux jours, vu que cette quarantaine n'est pas nécessaire. Au même sujet Mr. Dickson adresse la même demande au Conseil. Étant fait observer par son Excellence Arif Bey que l'Administration est dépourvue de nouvelles de ce navire, de la part de l'office des Dardanelles, le Conseil maintenant le *statu quo* du régime quarantenaire aux provenances de l'Égypte, d'où le navire en question arrive en dernier lieu, décide, sur la proposition de M. Delacour, qu'il y a lieu que non seulement la quarantaine des Dardanelles soit maintenue à l'égard du "Teeling Head," mais que ce navire, arrivé aux Dardanelles, doit être repoussé sur Clazomène où il fera sa quarantaine réglementaire.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Proposition made by the Delegate of Great Britain to the Superior Council of Health, on November 20, 1883.

DEPUIS le 18 Octobre, l'on ne signale plus des cas de choléra dans l'intérieur de l'Égypte, et au 13 Novembre M. Arnaud déclarait que la maladie avait cessé entièrement dans la Haute-Égypte. Les cas de choléra qui se présentent encore à Alexandrie sont évidemment les dernières poussées de la fin de l'épidémie.

Les pèlerins revenant de la Mecque subissent à Thor une quarantaine de quinze jours à compter de leur arrivée s'ils n'ont pas eu le choléra, et s'ils en ont été atteints, cette quarantaine ne compte que de la date du dernier cas de la maladie survenu parmi eux. En attendant, aucun cas n'a été signalé parmi eux depuis le 7 Novembre. Les pèlerins, par conséquent, nous arriveront indemnes de la maladie, et ce n'est que par un surcroît de précaution qu'on leur impose une seconde quarantaine dans la Méditerranée.

Vu donc toutes ces circonstances, j'engage le Conseil de vouloir bien rétablir les conditions de quarantaine d'après le Règlement applicable aux provenances de choléra de 1867; et d'après celui de 1871, applicable au passage des navires par les Détroits des Dardanelles et du Bosphore.

No. 2.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 216. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Foreign Office, December 3, 1883.*

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration your Excellency's despatch No. 347, Commercial, with its inclosures, dated the 24th ultimo, reporting the steps taken by you, with a view of obtaining a relaxation of the existing Quarantine Regulations at Constantinople, especially as regards vessels proceeding to the

Black Sea, and the obstacles which have been interposed in the way of the fulfilment in this respect of the wishes of Her Majesty's Government.

In now conveying to you their approval of your Excellency's exertions in this matter, as reported in the above-mentioned despatch, Her Majesty's Government desire that you should address a representation to the Porte, pointing out that with no show of reason can it be maintained that there is any risk of cholera being brought to Constantinople by vessels passing the Bosphorous in quarantine, for if it were so, the ordinary Regulations so much relied on would be insufficient for the protection of any port.

In the absence, therefore, of any sanitary reason for the detention of the ships which have formed the subject of the recent communications, Her Majesty's Government must consider the matter as one of undue interference with trade and navigation, which might lead to serious difficulties between the two Governments.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 3.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received December 19.)

(No. 360. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, December 14, 1883.*

IN obedience to your Lordship's instructions, I made a very strong effort to induce my colleagues and the Heads of Missions at Constantinople to abolish the present absurdly severe Quarantine Regulations, and to revert to the ordinary Cholera Règlement, which provides for a ten days' quarantine, and admits of vessels passing through the Dardanelles under observation. In order to reinforce my verbal representations, I transmitted to each of them a private note, of which I inclose a copy. Most of the Representatives evinced a very friendly and conciliatory disposition in the matter, especially the German, Russian, and Italian Ambassadors, and I had good hopes of a satisfactory result being attained at the next meeting of the Board of Health.

This meeting took place on Tuesday, the 11th instant. The result I have telegraphed to your Lordship, namely, that while a large majority of the Delegates showed themselves averse to allowing vessels to pass through the Dardanelles under the usual conditions, in spite of the Russian Representative's voting in support of the English Delegate; the Board unanimously decided to reduce the stringency of the present quarantine, and to return to the normal term of ten days. Unfortunately, almost immediately after the vote had been taken, a telegraphic message arrived to the effect that there had been an outbreak of cholera in the neighbourhood of Siout, and that seventeen deaths has occurred within twenty-four hours, though by the latest news it would appear that the numbers were fourteen in forty-eight hours. On this the French Delegate proposed that the recent resolution should be rescinded, and that the actual system should be maintained.

In reference to the foregoing transaction, your Lordship will further observe from Dr. Dickson's Report, which I inclose, that while the British, Russian, and German Delegates voted for the opening of the Dardanelles, the Austrian, Belgian, Dutch, French, Greek, Italian, Spanish and Swedish, voted against it. It seems farcical that the Representatives of such States as Belgium, Holland, Spain and Sweden, should be able to thwart the wishes of England and Russia, the Powers more immediately affected by the Regulation. Probably their real motive was the desire to curry favour with the Sultan, a consideration which undoubtedly influenced the Turkish Delegates, as His Majesty is known to be opposed to any relaxation of the present Rule.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

The Earl of Dufferin to Heads of Missions at Constantinople.

M. l'Ambassadeur,
M. le Ministre, *Constantinople, December 10, 1883.*

I HAVE been instructed by Lord Granville to direct Dr. Dickson, the British Delegate on the International Board of Health, to suggest that in view of the almost

total disappearance of epidemic cholera from Egypt, the present extraordinary term of quarantine should be reduced. I need not observe that the Règlement now in force is very disadvantageous to commerce, and is inflicting enormous injury and loss upon ship-owners and traders. It seems undesirable to do this when the necessity for it has ceased. One-half of the number of days of quarantine now required would surely be amply sufficient as a precautionary measure. I have therefore requested Dr. Dickson to propose at the next meeting of the Board, that a return should be made to the old cholera Règlement of ten days, and in view of the great anxiety of Her Majesty's Government upon this subject, I would venture to hope that you might be induced to instruct your Delegate to support this proposition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Dr. Dickson to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Constantinople, December* 12, 1883.

IN accordance with your Excellency's instructions, conveyed to me through Mr. Nicolson, I proposed to the Board of Health yesterday a return to the old established Quarantine Regulations for arrivals from places infected with cholera, and for the passage of the Straits of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles by vessels with a foul bill of health.

A complaint from Izzet Effendi, Director of the Postal and Telegraphic Departments, against the delay caused to mail-boats bound from Egypt to Turkey, owing to their going to Greece to perform quarantine instead of coming to Turkey, and this in order to avoid the inconvenience and expense of discharging their cargo in a lazaret as required by the Turkish Regulations at present in force, but not by the Greek Regulations, and a requisition from the War Department asking—to avoid delay and expense—that the supplies about to be sent to the Hedjaz army might be allowed to undergo their quarantine at Jeddah instead of Camaran, offered me a fit pretext to bring my proposal before the Board.

The Vice-President of the Board objected, however, to it, alleging that the Board had decided at its last sitting to maintain the *statu quo* until the end of the pilgrimage.

The Italian delegate objected to the proposal for the passage of the Straits in accordance with the Rules of 1871, but accepted that for a return to the Cholera Regulations of 1867, with a reserve, however, that the rules at present in force should be maintained on the pilgrims returning to Turkey and on the vessels that carried them.

The Russian Delegate, on the other hand, wished that the passage of the Straits should be granted, rather than the reduction of the quarantine at present in force.

The Board, after a prolonged discussion on these points, rejected the proposal to return to the Regulations of 1871, which allow vessels with a foul bill of health, bound to foreign ports, to pass through the Bosphorus and Dardanelles without communicating with the shore. The British, German, Persian, and Russian Delegates voted for the passage. The Austro-Hungarian, Belgian, Dutch, French, Greek, Italian, Spanish, Swedish, and Turkish Delegates voted against it.

The proposal to return to the cholera Regulations of 1867, with the amendment of the Italian Delegate, was unanimously accepted. Unfortunately, however, just before breaking up its sitting, the Board received a telegram from Dr. Arnaud, Ottoman Sanitary Delegate in Egypt, dated yesterday, announcing an outbreak of cholera at Es-Siout. Fourteen deaths had occurred from it in three days.

On hearing this announcement the French Delegate proposed the adjournment, until next Tuesday, of the decision just taken by the Board to return to its Regulations of 1867. All the members present, excepting myself, seconded Dr. Mahé's proposal. The questions, therefore, of a reduction of the quarantine on arrivals from Egypt, and of the passage of the Straits by vessels with a foul bill of health, remain as they stood before.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. D. DICKSON.

No. 4.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 230. Commercial)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, December* 24, 1883.

HER Majesty's Government approve the steps taken by you, as reported in your Excellency's despatch No. 360, Commercial, dated the 14th instant, with a view of obtaining the consent of the majority of the Powers represented at the Constantinople Board of Health to a reduction of the quarantine in Turkish ports on vessels coming from Egypt, and also to the passage of such vessels as are bound for the Black Sea in quarantine through the Dardanelles.

Her Majesty's Government gather from your Excellency's telegram dated the 20th instant that the quarantine in Turkish ports is now reduced from twenty to ten days, and that the question of passing the Dardanelles in quarantine is still under the consideration of the Sanitary Board.

With regard to the opposition offered on the part of the Delegates of certain Powers to the proposals of the British Delegate, supported by those of Germany and Russia, Her Majesty's Government have thought it desirable to call the attention of the Governments of Holland, Belgium, and Sweden and Norway, through Her Majesty's Representatives at the Hague, Brussels, and Stockholm, to the unreasonable character of their Delegates' action in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 5.

*Earl Granville to Mr. Stuart.**

(No. 52. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 29, 1883.

I TRANSMIT to you the accompanying copies of correspondence with the Earl of Dufferin relative to the excessive and vexatious nature of the Quarantine Regulations enforced in ports of the Turkish Empire against vessels coming from Egypt, and especially as regards ships desiring to pass through the Dardanelles to the Black Sea.†

You will observe from Lord Dufferin's despatch No. 360, Commercial, of the 14th instant, that whereas the Russian and German Delegates at the Constantinople Board of Health supported the representations of the English Delegate in favour of a reduction of the term of quarantine, as well as for permission for vessels bound for the Black Sea to pass the Dardanelles in quarantine, the Netherlands Delegate voted, among others, against those measures.

A telegram from Lord Dufferin, dated the 20th instant, reports that the quarantine upon Egypt has been reduced from twenty to ten days in Turkish ports, and that the question of passing through the Dardanelles in quarantine still awaits the decision of the Board of Health.

Pending, however, the result of their further deliberations, it appears to Her Majesty's Government desirable that you should emphatically call the attention of the Government to which you are accredited to the unreasonable character of the opposition offered by their Delegate at the Constantinople Health Board to the moderate proposals in this respect made on the part of Great Britain, and supported by Germany and Russia, which latter Power, on account of its Black Sea ports, is, after Turkey, necessarily the one most immediately interested in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

---

* Also to Mr. Napier (No. 33), and Sir H. Rumbold (No. 13).
† Nos. 1, 2, and 3.

No. 6.

Mr. Stuart to Earl Granville.—(Received January 3.)

(No. 1. Commercial.)
The Hague, January 1, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a note which I addressed yesterday to M. van der Does de Willebois, in execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch No. 52, Commercial, of the 29th ultimo, respecting the unreasonable opposition offered by the Netherlands Delegate at the Constantinople Board of Health to the moderate proposals made on the part of Great Britain, and supported by Germany and Russia, in favour of a reduction of the term of quarantine imposed upon arrivals in Turkish ports from Egypt, and of the passage through the Dardanelles in quarantine of vessels from Egypt bound for the Black Sea.

I shall take an early opportunity of inquiring of M. van der Does de Willebois whether he has acceded to the wishes of Her Majesty's Government in the above matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. STUART.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Mr. Stuart to M. de Willebois.

The Hague, December 31, 1883.

M. le Ministre,

EARL GRANVILLE has recently been in communication with Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople relative to the excessive and vexatious nature of the Quarantine Regulations enforced in ports of the Turkish Empire against vessels coming from Egypt, and especially as regards ships desiring to pass through the Dardanelles to the Black Sea.

It was stated in a despatch from the Earl of Dufferin, under date of the 14th instant, that whereas the Russian and German Delegates at the Constantinople Board of Health supported the representations of the English Delegate in favour of a reduction of the term of quarantine, as well as for permission for vessels bound for the Black Sea to pass the Dardanelles in quarantine, the Netherlands Delegate voted, among others, against those measures.

A telegram from Lord Dufferin, dated the 20th instant, reports that the quarantine upon Egypt has been reduced from twenty to ten days in Turkish ports, and that the question of passing through the Dardanelles in quarantine still awaits the decision of the Board of Health.

Pending, however, the result of their further deliberations, it appears to Her Majesty's Government desirable that I should emphatically call the attention of the Netherlands Government to the unreasonable character of the opposition offered by the Netherlands Delegate at the Constantinople Health Board to the moderate proposals in this respect made on the part of Great Britain, and supported by Germany and Russia, which latter Power, on account of its Black Sea ports, is, after Turkey, necessarily the one most immediately interested in the matter.

I have accordingly the honour to recommend the foregoing observations to your Excellency's early and favourable consideration, in the hope that you will be so good as to cause instructions to be given to the Netherlands Delegate to support the proposals of his English colleague upon the points in question when they are next submitted to the decision of the Board of Health.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. STUART.

No. 7.

Earl Granville to Mr. Stuart.

(No. 2. Commercial.)
Foreign Office, January 3, 1884.

Sir,

I APPROVE the note addressed by you to the Netherlands Minister for Foreign Affairs, a copy of which is inclosed in your despatch No. 1, Commercial, dated the 1st

instant, with respect to the opposition offered by the Netherlands Delegate at the Constantinople Board of Health to the proposals made on the part of Great Britain, and supported by Germany and Russia, in favour of a modification of the existing Quarantine Regulations in ports of the Ottoman Empire as regards arrivals from Egypt.

I have to request that you will continue to give your attention to this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 8.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 1. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.)
Foreign Office, January 3, 1884.

YOUR telegram of 20th ultimo.

Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs has promised to telegraph to Constantinople about attitude of Swedish member of Sanitary Board, which he considers unreasonable.

No. 9.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 2. Commercial.)
Foreign Office, January 4, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 230, Commercial, of the 24th ultimo, I transmit to you herewith, for your Excellency's information, a copy of the despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Representatives at the Hague, Brussels, and Stockholm, respecting the unreasonable character of the action of the Netherlands, Belgian, and Swedish-Norwegian Delegates at the Constantinople Health Board as regards the Turkish Quarantine Regulations.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 10.

Mr. Stuart to Earl Granville.—(Received January 7.)

(No. 4. Commercial.)
The Hague, January 4, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 1, Commercial, of the 1st instant, I have the honour to state that I called upon M. Van der Does de Willebois yesterday, in order to inquire of him whether he had sent instructions to the Netherlands Delegate at the Constantinople Board of Health, in the sense desired by Her Majesty's Government, respecting the vexatious Quarantine Regulations enforced in Turkey against vessels coming from Egypt.

His Excellency said that he had not felt able to send positive instructions upon the subject to the Netherlands Delegate without knowing the reasons which had influenced that functionary in voting against proposals of the British Delegate, which were supported by their Russian and German colleagues at the Board of Health; but he had written to ask for detailed explanations of the conduct of the Netherlands Delegate in the matter, and that his despatch to that effect was drawn up in such terms as to make it evident that it was the desire of the Netherlands Government that the proposals of the English Delegate should be adopted, unless there were very strong reasons for opposing them.

I observed to M. de Willebois that there was little or no difference between the views of Her Majesty's Government and those of the Netherlands Government upon the subject of Quarantine Regulations, and that it was very desirable that the Delegates

* No. 5.

of the two countries at the Constantinople Board of Health should act as ar as possible in accord upon such matters.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. STUART.

No. 11.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received January 7.)

(No. 2. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Brussels, January 5, 1884.*

UPON receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 33, Commercial, of the 29th ultimo, instructing me to make a representation to the Belgian Government upon the unreasonable character of the opposition offered by their Delegate at the Constantinople Board of Health to the moderate propositions made on the part of Great Britain for the relaxation of the excessive Quarantine Regulations in force in ports of the Turkish Empire, I addressed a note in the sense of your Lordship's instructions to M. Frère-Orban, copy of which I have now the honour to inclose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Sir E. Malet to M. Frère-Orban.

M. le Ministre, *Brussels, December 31, 1883.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that a question has recently arisen at Constantinople concerning the excessive and vexatious nature of the Quarantine Regulations enforced in ports of the Turkish Empire against vessels coming from Egypt, with regard to which I am desired by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to make a representation to your Excellency.

It seems that the Board of Health at Constantinople some time since imposed a quarantine of twenty days on vessels coming from Egypt, and adopted a Resolution refusing to allow them to pass through the Straits of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus in quarantine, whereas under the standing Regulations of 1867 and 1871 the quarantine imposable was ten days, and ships were allowed to pass under observation through the Straits to Russian ports.

Her Majesty's Government hold that the new Rules are an undue interference with trade and navigation, which might lead to serious difficulties between the two Governments. They therefore instructed Lord Dufferin, Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, to endeavour to prevail upon the Ottoman Government to return to the standing Regulations.

A motion to this effect was accordingly submitted to the Board of Health at Constantinople by the British Delegate on the 11th instant.

Lord Granville learns, however, that although the Russian and German Delegates at the Board supported the representations of the English Delegate in favour of a reduction of the term of quarantine, as well as for permission for vessels bound for the ack Sea to pass the Dardanelles in quarantine, the motion was lost; and the point B which I which I am desired by Lord Granville to draw your Excellency's attention to hat the Belgian Delegate was among those who voted against these measures.

A telegram from Lord Dufferin, dated the 20th instant, reports that the quarantine on Egypt has been subsequently reduced from twenty to ten days, and that the question of passing through the Dardanelles in quarantine still awaits the decision of the Board of Health.

Pending, however, the result of their further deliberations, I am desired by Her Majesty's Government emphatically to call the attention of the Government of the King to the unreasonable character of the opposition offered to the moderate proposal made on the part of Great Britain, and supported by Germany and Russia, which latter Power, on account of its Black Sea ports, is, after Turkey, necessarily the one most interested in the matter.

I venture to express the hope that your Excellency will be so good as to attenuate this opposition by instructing the Belgian Delegate to support the English proposal at

the Board of Health, as it merely contemplates a return to a rule which had previously proved an ample safeguard.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

No. 12.

Earl Granville to Mr. Stuart.

(No. 3. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, January 8, 1884.*

I APPROVE the language held by you to M. de Willebois, as reported in your despatch No. 4, Commercial, of the 4th instant, with regard to the action of the Netherlands Delegate at the Constantinople Board of Health in opposing the measures supported by the Delegates of Great Britain, Russia, and Germany for the relaxation of the existing Quarantine Regulations in Turkey against vessels arriving from Egypt.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 13.

Sir H. Rumbold to Earl Granville.—(Received January 9.)

(No. 2. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Stockholm, January 3, 1884.*

I CALLED upon Baron Hochschild as soon as possible after the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 13, Commercial, of the 29th ultimo, and told his Excellency that I regretted to have to address a complaint to him respecting the attitude of the Swedish and Norwegian Delegate in the International Sanitary Board at Constantinople, but that the opposition in which that Delegate had joined against certain proposals put forward by the British Delegate for a relaxation of the quarantine enforced in the Turkish Empire against vessels coming from Egypt would, I could hardly doubt, seem to his Excellency as unreasonable as it had to your Lordship, and that I was instructed emphatically to call his attention to it. I then proceeded to state to him the circumstances as detailed by Lord Dufferin in the correspondence which accompanied your Lordship's despatch, specially dwelling on the fact that the passage of vessels with a foul bill of health through the Dardanelles was supported by Russia, whose interest in the matter was perhaps the greatest.

Baron Hochschild was much struck by what I told him, and said that, having himself had no information on the subject from Constantinople, he was quite at a loss to explain the action of the Swedish Delegate. *Primâ facie* he must admit that it seemed unreasonable. He thought it possible, however, that the opposition might have been led by Austria, who might fear the contagion reaching the Danubian ports.

I explained to his Excellency that from a telegram from Lord Dufferin of the 20th ultimo it appeared that the quarantine upon Egypt had now been reduced from twenty days to ten in Turkish ports, but that the question of passage through the Dardanelles still awaited the decision of the Board of Health. Under these circumstances, I would ask him to do me the favour of telegraphing to Constantinople to moderate the zeal of his Delegate.

Baron Hochschild, who showed the greatest readiness to meet your Lordship's wishes, said he was himself going to offer to do this. He would telegraph to M. d'Ehrenhoff at once, and unless there were special reasons for the line taken by the Swedish Delegate, he should be instructed to abstain from any further opposition. I telegraphed the substance of the above to your Lordship yesterday evening.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HORACE RUMBOLD.

No. 14.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 4. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, January 9, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 2, Commercial, dated the 4th instant, I transmit to you herewith, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Stuart, reporting the communications which have passed between himself and M. Van der Does de Willebois, respecting the attitude of the Netherlands Delegate at the Constantinople Board of Health in regard to the Turkish Quarantine Regulations.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 15.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 6. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, January 10, 1884.

Sir,

I APPROVE the note addressed by you to M. Frère-Oban, a copy of which is inclosed in your despatch No. 2, Commercial, of the 5th instant, respecting the attitude adopted by the Belgian Delegate at the Constantinople Board of Health in regard to the Turkish Quarantine Regulations.

I am, &c,

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 16.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Rumbold.

(No. 1. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, January 11, 1884.

Sir,

I APPROVE the language held by you to Baron Hochschild, as reported in your despatch No. 2, Commercial, dated the 3rd instant, respecting the action of the Swedish and Norwegian Delegate at the Constantinople Board of Health in regard to the Turkish Quarantine Regulations.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 17.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 6. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, January 11, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 1, Commercial, dated the 3rd instant, I inclose, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a despatch from Sir H. Rumbold, further relating to the attitude of the Swedish and Norwegian Delegate at the Constantinople Sanitary Board.†

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 18.

Sir E. Malet to Earl Granville.—(Received January 21.)‡

(No. 14. Commercial.)

Brussels, January 20, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 2, Commercial, of the 5th instant, I have the honour to inclose copy of a note which I have received from M. Frère-Orban,

* No. 10.

† No. 13.

‡ Copy sent to the Earl of Dufferin, January 30.

informing me that the King's Government has accepted the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the excessive Quarantine Regulations imposed upon vessels entering the Bosphorus and Dardanelles, and has in consequence sent instructions to the Belgian Delegate on the Constantinople Board of Health to support the proposals of the British Representative.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Inclosure in No. 18.

M. Frère-Orban to Sir E. Malet.

Bruxelles, le 19 *Janvier*, 1884.

M. le Ministre,

EN réponse à la communication que votre Excellence m'a faite en date du 31 Décembre dernier, j'ai l'honneur de porter à sa connaissance, avec prière de vouloir bien en informer Lord Granville, qu'après examen des circonstances le Gouvernement du Roi se rallie pleinement à la manière de voir du Cabinet de Sa Majesté Britannique relativement à la suppression des entraves apportées à la navigation dans les Dardanelles et le Bosphore par suite des mesures prises par le Conseil International de Sante de Constantinople.

J'ai en conséquence transmis des instructions au Ministre du Roi en Turquie afin que le Délégué Belge au Conseil de Santé appuie la proposition du Représentant Britannique.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) FRÈRE-ORBAN.

No. 19.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 12. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, January 29, 1884.

Sir,

I HAVE to request you to express to the Belgian Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government learn that their Delegate on the Constantinople Board of Health has been instructed to support the proposals of the British Delegate regarding quarantine on vessels entering the Dardanelles and Bosphorus, as reported in your despatch No. 14, Commercial, of the 20th instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 20.

Mr. Stuart to Earl Granville.—(Received February 8.)

(No. 16. Commercial.)

The Hague, February 7, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatches Nos. 1 and 4, Commercial, of the 1st and 4th ultimo, I have the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a note which I have received from M. van der Does de Willebois, in answer to mine of the 31st December, relative to the action of the Netherlands Delegate at the Constantinople Board of Health in opposing the measures supported by the Delegates of Great Britain, Russia, and Germany for the relaxation of the Quarantine Regulations in Turkey against vessels arriving from Egypt.

M. de Willebois states that it results from the inquiries which he has made into the matter that Dr. Stekoulis, the Delegate in question, who is described as having always given proofs of great capacity and conscientious zeal, has justified his action, under the circumstances to which I had called his Excellency's attention, and that, as the Board of Health has now come to an understanding upon the subject, there is no occasion for the Netherlands Government to send fresh instructions to him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. STUART.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Inclosure in No. 20.

M. de Willebois to Mr. Stuart.

M. le Ministre, *La Haye, le 6 Février*, 1884.

EN me signalant, par la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser le 31 Décembre dernier, la divergence d'opinions qui s'est manifestée entre le Délégué Anglais auprès du Conseil Sanitaire à Constantinople et celui des Pays-Bas à l'occasion du vote émis par ce dernier au sujet du passage en contumace des détroits des Dardanelles et du Bosphore par les navires venant d'Égypte et destinés pour les ports Russes de la Mer Noire, vous voulez bien me demander de donner au Délégué Néerlandais des instructions pour qu'il appuie les propositions de son collègue sur les points en question.

Avant de satisfaire à cette demande, j'ai cru, M. le Ministre, devoir prendre de mon côté des informations à Constantinople, afin de connaître les motifs qui avaient amené M. le Dr. Stekoulis à se séparer sur ce point de son collègue Britannique. Il résulte de ces informations que le Délégué Néerlandais, qui a toujours donné des preuves d'une grande capacité et d'un zèle consciencieux, a justifié son avis.

Il n'y a du reste pas lieu pour le Gouvernement du Roi de lui donner des instructions nouvelles, les circonstances sur lesquelles vous avez fixé mon attention ayant été modifiées depuis la date de votre lettre, si bien que le Conseil s'est mis d'accord.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) VAN DER DOES DE WILLEBOIS.

No. 21.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 21. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, February* 15, 1884.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 6, Commercial, dated the 11th ultimo, I transmit to you herewith, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a despatch, with its inclosure, from Mr. Stuart, containing the answer of the Netherlands Government regarding the action of their Delegate at the Constantinople Sanitary Board in respect of the Quarantine Regulations against arrivals from Egypt in Turkish ports.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

×

* No. 20.